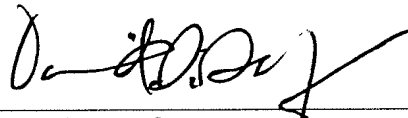


**REMARKS**

By the above actions, claim 1 has been amended to constitute allowable claim 3 rewritten in independent form including intervening claim 2 as a result of which the dependence of claim 4 has been amended from claim 2 to claim 1. Additionally, claim 20 has been placed in independent form. Therefore, based on the indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claims 3 & 20 in item 5 of the Office Action and the fact that all of the other claims now depend from an allowable claim, this application should now be in condition for allowance and action to the effect is requested.

However, while it is believed that this application should now be in condition for allowance, in the event that any issues should remain, or any new issues arise, after consideration of this response which could be addressed through discussions with the undersigned, then the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned by telephone for the purpose of resolving any such issue and thereby facilitating prompt approval of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



---

David S. Safran  
Registration No. 27,997

Customer No. 25570

Roberts, Mlotkowski Safran & Cole, PC  
P.O. Box 10064  
McLean, VA 22102

Direct Telephone: 703-584-3273

DSS:kmm